

## LA FOLLETTE CHARGES PLOT BY RAILROADS

Says Secret Meeting Won Support of Farm Bureau Organization.

### GUARANTY TO REMAIN

Meeting Also Agreed to Restore State Control of State Rates.

### PUBLISHES A REPORT

Declares Agreement Will Defeat Demand for Lower Freight Tariffs.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Senator La Follette of Wisconsin charged to-day that representatives of the railroads and of the coal, steel and lumber interests at a "secret" meeting held in Washington December 9 attempted to obtain from farm organization leaders, and did obtain from some such leaders, adherence to an agreement not to push legislation to repeal the commonly called guaranty section of the transportation act and to restore State control of State rates.

In substantiation of his charges Mr. La Follette made public what he described as "a brief report of the action of the conference," held here December 9, which he branded "as a conspiracy to betray not only the farmers, but the consuming and the producing millions of the nation." This report was made public by the Senator without an explanation of its source, as follows:

"On December 9 a secret meeting was held in Washington at which high officials of the railroads, the coal, steel and lumber interests attempted to enlist the farmers in an agreement whereby all agitation by the farm interests for repeal of Section 15A and for the restoration of State control over intrastate rates should cease.

"The great special interests represented at this conference were successful in obtaining the consent of certain of the farm representatives to such an agreement.

"This conference was participated in by the special committee representing the railway executives, of which Mr. Atterbury of the Pennsylvania Railroad was chairman. It was held at the Racquet Club in Washington on December 9, 1921. There had been a previous conference in New York on September 21, of which Mr. J. R. Howard was made chairman. Those present at the Racquet Club meeting were Mr. W. W. Atterbury of the Pennsylvania Railroad, Howard Elliott of the Northern Pacific, W. J. Hanrahan of the Chesapeake and Ohio, W. B. Story of the Aichison and R. S. Binkert, who is

assistant to the chairman of the Association of Railway Executives, New York.

"The iron and steel industries were represented by J. A. Campbell of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company of Youngstown, Ohio, and C. E. Bennett of Lansing, Mich., representing the Novo Engine Company.

"Railway supply organizations were represented by A. B. Johnson, president of the Railway Business Association of Philadelphia, and Frank W. Naxon, secretary of the same association. Lumber interests were represented by Charles Hill of the Southern Pine and Sales Corporation of New York, A. B. Hammond of the Hammond Lumber Company of San Francisco, J. H. Browne of the Snyder Lumber Company, New York city.

"Construction companies were represented by R. C. Marshall, Munsey Building, Washington, D. C., and E. T. Trigg of Philadelphia.

"The National Industrial Traffic League was represented by W. H. Chandler, Boston, Mass., and J. H. Beck, Chicago.

"The National Association of Manufacturers was represented by J. A. Emery of Washington, D. C.

"The agricultural interests were represented by J. R. Howard, Gray Silver, H. C. McKinnis of New York, Ralph Snyder of Kansas and O. E. Bradfute of Chicago. They were all of the American Farm Bureau Federation, the last three named being members of its legislative committee. The agricultural interests were also represented by W. I. Drummond, president of the International Farm Congress, and by T. C. Atkeson of the National Grange.

"Mr. Atterbury stated that the railroads desired the help of the interests represented in securing further wage reductions and in opposing the amendments pending in Congress proposing repeal of section 15A. After a considerable discussion, the agricultural representatives not being disposed to oppose the amendments absolutely, adjournment was taken for luncheon, with the understanding that representatives of the carriers and of the agricultural interests would talk the matter over. After luncheon Mr. Howard reported that the agricultural representatives were prepared to agree that section 15A should not be amended, except for the removal of the proviso in paragraph 3 relating to the percentage of return for two years following March 1, 1920, which expires by statutory limitation in March next.

"It was left with a committee composed of Mr. Emery, Mr. Atkeson and Mr. Silver to re-write the Copper bill, one of the measures proposing repeal of Section 15A."

Senator La Follette declared that in brief the alleged proposal of the railroads to cease agitating anything, "the American Farm Bureau Federation said to-day, in reply to the statement issued by Senator La Follette at Washington. 'We are committed to repeal of Section 15A of the railroad act and will continue to work for it, and we likewise are committed to restoration of some of the powers of State rate making commissions.'"

"There was never any secret about the Washington conference of December 9, the Farm Bureau Federation said. The meeting was one of a series held to discuss lower freight rates on farm products.

## SECRET RAIL MEETING DENIED BY JOHNSON

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.—Alba B. Johnson, president of the Railway Business Association, to-night denied the meeting of railway and industrial leaders in Washington on December 9 was "secret" as charged by Senator La Follette.

The meeting, Mr. Johnson said, was called by James A. Emery, counsel for the National Association of Manufacturers.

It was decided at the meeting, Mr. Johnson said, that railroad rates should be reduced as fast as decreasing operating costs would permit; that it would be unwise for the farmers to demand that control of intrastate rates for car service be taken from the Interstate Commerce Commission, and that it was wise to recognize the desire of the farmers to terminate the clause in the Esch-Cummins law, which fixed 5 to 6 per cent. as the financial return for the railroads.

Neither W. W. Atterbury, vice-president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, nor E. T. Trigg, the other Philadelphia mentioned in Senator La Follette's statement, could be reached to-night.

### 'CALL' EDITOR ACCUSES WILSON AND HARDING

Says Both Violated Oaths of Office in Debs Case.

TERRE HAUTE, Dec. 27 (Associated Press).—President Harding and former President Wilson were accused in a speech made here to-night by C. W. Ervin, editor of the New York Call, a Socialist newspaper, of having violated their oaths of office in connection with the imprisonment of Eugene V. Debs, Socialist leader, who was released from prison last Sunday through Presidential clemency. Debs's arrest and imprisonment, Ervin said, violated the constitutional guaranty of free speech.

"When Woodrow Wilson placed Debs or any one else in jail for opinion's sake," declared Ervin, "he violated his oath of office. And every day that Warren G. Harding continued to hold Debs in jail he continued the violation of his oath of office."

With several other Socialist leaders who have gathered here to await the homecoming of Debs to-morrow, Ervin was a speaker at a preliminary meeting held to-night. Attendance at the meeting was small, but before it ended the crowd numbered about 500. Praise of Debs, uttered by all the speakers, was received enthusiastically.

## DEBS GETS REBUKE FOR MAKING SPEECH

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conference delegates here, made the presentation.

Ledoux called upon Debs carrying a lighted lantern and a copy of the sermon on the Mount. He presented the copy of the sermon to Debs and made a speech in which he likened the force of the Socialist leader to the force which moved mountains.

Like Diogenes, he said, he had been carrying the lantern in search of a honest man. "But since I have met you," Ledoux said, "I have no further use for it."

Debs accepted the lantern with thanks, but declared himself unworthy of it.

### DEBS'S WAY TO END WAR IS MAKE LEADERS FIGHT

Predicts Washington Parley Will Be Flat Failure.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (United Press).—The Washington arms conference is futile and will be a flat failure, Eugene V. Debs, Socialist leader, just out of the Federal prison at Atlanta, said in an exclusive interview to-day.

The destruction of capital ships agreed to by the conference "will only cheapen the next war, while leaving it to be fought out with more deadly weapons," the Socialist leader said.

Having conferred with President Harding and Attorney-General Daugherty, Debs plans to leave Washington to-night for his home in Terre Haute, where he said, "my wife, patient soul, has had my slippers and dressing jacket laid out for me since Sunday." Debs and his party will reach Terre Haute to-morrow afternoon and have been notified a grand reception awaits them.

"There are two certain ways of ending war and no others," said Debs. "The first is to compel those who are for war to get into the trenches themselves and have their own bodies dismembered and shot into tatters. The other is for the people to absolutely refuse to go to war unless they declare it themselves. In either case, not another war would ever again brutalize and disgrace mankind and shock and horrify the world.

"To discuss disarmament without res-

## HUB CLAIMS CREDIT FOR BRONX COCKTAIL

Invented by Accident by Boston Bartender for Early Morning Patron. It Is Said.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE NEW YORK HERALD. BOSTON, Dec. 27.—Boston takes issue with New York on the report from the latter city that a saloon was sold in the Bronx for \$10 where the first Bronx cocktail was concocted.

Various local hotel men and former white aproned dispensers of liquors, in the days when the purchaser could get something better than one-half of one per cent. for his money admitted that the New York yarn was a good one, except that it wasn't true.

According to those who say they know the late George Swain, who was well known for many years in the Boston alcoholic belt, invented the Bronx cocktail.

"It was an accident," said John L. Lane of the Hotel Brewster. "As George Swain told the story, a man walked into the bar where he was working one morning and demanded something in a mixed drink that had never been mixed before. George never uttered an eyelid, but reached for the gin bottle. Then he added some vermouth and shook the stuff up with some cracked ice and plenty of orange juice. What he poured into the glass was the first Bronx cocktail ever made on the American continent. The drink thus produced by accident immediately became famous, and it was not long before it was being enjoyed in New York hotels and bars."

"Dear Comrade Debs, you are our inspiration—the beacon light of progress and revolutionary Socialism. We welcome you back to the militant ranks of the Socialists and the Socialist movement to lead and enlighten the working class to final victory and everlasting emancipation. We join you in your demand for an immediate amnesty for all political prisoners in America."

Small busts of Debs were sold at the meeting for twenty-five cents each.

**Harvard Employee Ends Life.**  
BOSTON, Dec. 27.—Walter G. Forsyth, employed in the Fogg Art Museum at Harvard University, committed suicide to-day by shooting. The body was found in Forsyth's room in a lodging house on Beacon Hill. He was 60 years old.

## ASKS AID OF STATES IN ENFORCING LAWS

Attorney-General Suggests Cooperation Regarding Prohibition and Food Supply.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Cooperation of State law enforcement officials with those of the Federal Government was asked by Attorney-General Daugherty in letters sent late to-day to the Attorneys-General of the States. Such cooperation, it was maintained, would result in better and more uniform enforcement of all statutes.

Enforcement of the prohibition and the food and fuel supply laws were particularly referred to. Mr. Daugherty explained in announcing the dispatch of the letters, "There was no disposition on the part of the Federal Government to evade responsibility, he added, but there was a feeling that the States should make every effort to enforce their laws which might be a duplication of Federal statutes."

The letters were also accepted in some quarters as a step in connection with the move, recently announced, of investigating retail prices. Mr. Daugherty suggested to the State Attorneys-General that they call a conference of county prosecutors of their respective States and, if possible, bring about "a coherent, working arrangement" between them and the Federal officials charged with the same enforcement functions. Such a meeting, he added, ought to be held early in the new year, that the basis of understanding could be employed to effect economies in expenditures as well as serve the real purpose of accomplishing more thorough law enforcement.

The coordination sought, Mr. Daugherty said, ought to be of real help to municipal authorities, chambers of commerce and others interested in reaching "violations for extortion in the prices now maintained."

Referring further to the cooperation which he asked, Mr. Daugherty said: "This will make for a better understanding among the people. It will also afford an opportunity for the several States, without duplication with the Federal Government, to enforce laws which should be enforced by State authorities and leave for the Federal Government such duties as devolve upon it."

"The two principal offenses which I now have in mind are those against the liquor and the food and fuel supply laws. There is no disposition on the part of the Federal Government, as represented by the Department of Justice, to evade any responsibility in respect to its duties, but the States, I believe, should first enforce their laws in regard to the violations, and the Federal Government promptly cooperating with the States enforce the laws which should be enforced by it. There are substantial duplications in many of these laws, and a better understanding between State and Federal authorities will prove most beneficial to both in the enforcement of prohibition and food and fuel laws pertaining to prices."

Lest THEY forget.

PIRIE MACDONALD Photographer of Men.

576 FIFTH AV. COR. 47TH ST.

## J.M. Gidding & Co.

564-566-568 FIFTH AVE. AT 46TH STREET NEW YORK THE PARIS SHOP OF AMERICA PARIS

### Last Days of Selling in the Old Store

The New Gidding Building Opens January 3rd

### Fur Coats, Wraps and Separate Pieces regardless of former cost or value

\$5500 Mink Cape.....	\$2500
\$3500 Broadtail and Hudson Seal Cape.....	\$1500
\$4500 Broadtail Wrap.....	\$2250
\$2500 Natural Mink Wrap.....	\$1350
\$1650 Handsome Fitch Cape.....	\$995
\$1600 Ermine Cape.....	\$950
\$1250 Natural Squirrel Wrap.....	\$785
\$1250 Taupe Caracul Wrap.....	\$675
\$750 Hudson Seal Wrap.....	\$495
\$650 Handsome Mole Wrap.....	\$395
\$450 Natural Raccoon Coats.....	\$295
\$395 Taupe Nutria Coats.....	\$250

### Suits—grouped for quick selling

Tailored and Sport Styles	Fur-trimmed and Costume Styles
at \$35—\$50	at \$75—\$95—\$125
Formerly \$95 to \$135	Formerly \$150 to \$295

### Coats—grouped for quick selling

Street and Sport Styles	Rich Fur-trimmed Effects
at \$75—\$95	at \$125—\$150
Formerly \$125 to \$225	Formerly \$225 to \$295

### Dresses—grouped for quick selling

Street and Afternoon Styles of cloth and silk	Afternoon and Dinner Styles of velvet
at \$45—\$65	at \$65—\$95—\$125
Formerly \$125 to \$175	Formerly \$145 to \$295

### Dance and Evening Styles

at \$55—\$75—\$95
Formerly \$145 to \$250

### NOTES FROM THE NEW GIDDING STORE

Fifth Avenue below 57th Street  
IN ENGLAND, under the "law of ancient lights," the man across the way is not allowed to put up a tall building if it interferes with your sunshine and fresh air.  
Here we are only beginning to realize that sunshine is very precious—not carelessly to be cut off.  
Hence the wise restrictions on building heights.  
The new Gidding building, just below the corner of 57th Street, is flooded with morning sunshine over the Huntington mansion just across Fifth Ave.  
Will Open Jan. 3rd.


HATS—  
for street, sport, semi-dress and dressy wear.  
at \$5-\$10-\$15  
Formerly to \$40

BLOUSES—  
Tailored and Costume styles  
at \$5-\$10  
Formerly to \$35

SKIRTS—  
Plain and pleated effects of swaggar, plaited and striped woolen fabrics.  
at \$10-\$15  
Formerly to \$35

SWEATERS—  
Of Shetland, jersey and imported wool, slip-on and coat styles.  
at \$5-\$10  
Formerly to \$20

Each Sale is Absolute and for Cash—No Charges, Exchanges or Approvals



Clearance Sale  
Young Men's  
Shoes and  
Oxfords


Oxfords for young men that were formerly priced up to \$15.00.

Sale Price  
**\$7.50**

Tan and black Brogue oxfords formerly priced up to \$16.00.

Sale Prices  
**\$9.50 and \$12.00**

**DE PINNA**  
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Present Today—Wednesday  
**SEQUIN and PAILLETTE**  
**EVENING GOWNS**  
—made from imported French robes  
At 49.50 to 98.50

Trimming is required on one of these glittering frocks, except perhaps the audacity of a vivid rose at one side, or the softness of fold upon fold of tulle, because every one of the myriad paillettes that go to fashion it scintillates in a joyous, jewel-like manner that requires no elaboration. Every robe in the collection was imported by us from Paris, and for that reason, we are able to offer them at prices that are extremely low.

In black, with sapphire or jade patterns or chenille embroidery—all black, sapphire, white and sphinx. Sizes 36 to 44.

**Greatly Reduced!**

Metal Brocade Evening Gowns of imported materials. Regularly 150.00 to 225.00.	Reduced to 98.50
Salome Velvet Evening Gowns in coral or sapphire. Regularly 150.00.	Reduced to 98.50
Chiffon Velvet Evening Gowns, bead trimmed. Regularly 69.50.	Reduced to 49.50

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